

The Episcopal Church of St. Martin

EXTENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2023

This Week

Prayer Trees in the Narthex

The prayer trees in the narthex will stay up throughout the Christmas season, until January 8. Feel free to place your prayers on them—intercessory prayers, prayers of thanksgiving, or anything you'd like God to hear. Just take a tag from the nearby basket and add your prayer—you can even draw your prayer! Then hang your tag on the tree or take it home with you. Place as many prayers on the tree as you wish.

Matthew 25 Grant Recipients Announced

The Vestry is pleased to announce the recipient organizations of this year's Matthew 25 grants. A combined total of \$28,000 will be given to these organizations before Dec. 31 from the 2022 budgeted Matthew 25 money (\$24,000) as well as \$4000 from the Linda Hoff Frost fund designated for social justice and outreach. These organizations were chosen by a subcommittee consisting of a Vestry member, a Social Justice and Outreach Committee member, and three parishioners at large. The subcommittee selected these organizations from those nominated by parishioners.

Davis Community Meals and Housing (DCMH): \$5,000

Dixon Family Services: \$5,000

The Center at St. Matthew's: \$5,000

Short Term Emergency Aid Committee (STEAC): \$5,000

Empower Yolo: \$3,000

Paul's Place: \$3,000

NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness) Yolo: \$1,000

Episcopal Relief and Development: \$1,000

For Children and Families

Godly Play and First Sunday Services in the New Year

In 2023, we will hold **Godly Play three times a month – the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays – during the 10:00am service**, with the first Sunday of the month designated as a “First Sunday” intergenerational service. This month, we have a slight shift in the schedule due to the New Year's holiday. We'll hold our “**First Sunday**” intergenerational service on **January 8** at the 10 o'clock service, and then **Godly Play** on January 15, 22, and 29. If you have children but have not joined us in Godly Play, we would love to see you! For questions, contact the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org) or Sheri Reynolds.

The Nursery is Open

The nursery is open on Sundays from 9:30 - 11:30am. We invite parents to bring infants through age 5 to Room 2, where our nursery care staff will welcome you and answer any questions you may have. If you'd like to come take a look at the nursery anytime, just let us know. For questions, you can also talk to Rev. Pamela—and don't worry, children of all ages are always welcome in church!

Save the Date

Annual Meeting - Sunday, February 5 and Call for Convention Delegates

Save the date so that you can attend our annual meeting on Sunday, February 5 after the 10:00am service. Among other activities, we will elect Vestry members and Diocesan Convention delegates, as well as explain the 2023 budget. **If you are interested in being a nominee for convention delegate**, please let the office know as soon as possible (info@churchofstmartin.org; 530-756-0444). Delegates attend a Saturday half-day, pre-convention convocation (usually offered on Zoom) and then the 2023 Diocesan Convention in person on November 3 - 4 at Faith Episcopal Church in Cameron Park.

Happening Soon! Learning and Growing Together

Sacred Ground Circle New Start Date, January 8

Sacred Ground is a discussion series on race, grounded in faith and developed by the Episcopal Church. The Rev. Ernie Lewis and Carole Hom will co-facilitate a new Sacred Ground Dialogue Circle. We will meet in a hybrid format at St. Martin's on Sunday afternoons, starting on January 8th, with meetings approximately every two weeks (with a break around Easter) until the last session in June. Interested? Contact Ernie Lewis or Carole Hom or email the church office at info@churchofstmartin.org.

Upcoming Racial Reconciliation Workshops at Trinity Cathedral and St. Martin's

Saturday, January 21, Trinity Cathedral in Sacramento, 9:30am - 4:30pm

Register: <https://forms.gle/tAa9a3Wmij2e3PsL9>

Saturday, February 18, 2023, St. Martin's in Davis, 9:30am – 4:30pm

Register: <https://forms.gle/zRz2d3T6jfyAEVG59>

Lunch donation of \$10 (cash or check) on day of workshop.

I Will, with God's Help: Journey Toward Racial Healing and Justice

This one-day, in-person workshop was specially developed for the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California by the Commission on Intercultural Ministries. Renew your Baptismal Covenant as we learn about forms of historic and contemporary racism and how to engage in ministry with sensitivity and respect for all. Please note that due to the nature of the program, attendance is limited to 30 participants. Attendance at this workshop fulfills the racial reconciliation requirement needed for certain ministries in the church.

Spirituality in Nature Gathering, January 14

Please join us for our third monthly Spirituality in Nature Gathering (SING!), on Saturday January 14th at 10am for a gentle, 60-minute hike here in Davis. Those who wish may want to head to a nearby coffee shop for a conversation afterward. A recent nationwide survey of American spiritual and religious practices confirmed what most of us already know: people connect with the Holy when they spend time in nature. **This will be a “rain or shine” event**, and if appropriate we'll talk about what it means to experience nature during dreary or challenging weather. If you're worried about accessibility or the cost of coffee/lunch, please be in touch with Rev. Pamela. **Contact the office** for more information or to let us know you're interested so we can share meet-up details with you!

REVIVE! SIGN UP NOW for “Revive” on February 24 - 25 and throughout Lent 2023!

It's time to sign up to be part of a small group committed to helping our spiritual lives deepen, renew, and thrive. “Revive” is designed to give lay leaders the chance to be re-energized with new ideas and to learn about yourself and the God we all love and serve. The program begins with a retreat on **Friday, February 24** from 6 to 9pm and all day on **Saturday, February 25**, here at St. Martin's. After the retreat, the program meets on Wednesday evenings for six consecutive weeks. **Please call or email the church office by January 15** if you want to participate in the retreat—this does not obligate you to take the Wednesday night class. If you have questions, please reach out to Rev. Pamela. She'd love to talk with you about it!

Other Updates

Thanks for Your Generosity!

St. Martin's gives away our Christmas plate offerings. This year, your donations totalled \$3,312, all of which will go to Yolo Crisis Nursery, an organization that provides childcare for ages birth through five years, along with wraparound services for families in crisis. Thank you one and all for your nominations of worthy organizations and for your generosity!

More Thanks—Winter Shelter Meals!

Thank you also, St. Martin's, for signing up for all seven dates next week that we are scheduled to provide dinner for the downtown Davis Cold Weather Shelter. We may have other opportunities this Winter to provide dinners. Contact Janet Lane or the church office for information or ways to help.

A Stewardship Message

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to the 113 individuals and families who have already given us their pledge for 2023. **If you haven't pledged yet, you can still do so** by filling out a pledge card and mailing or bringing it to the church office, by putting it in the plate at church on Sunday, or by writing to our confidential stewardship e-mail (stewardship@churchofstmartin.org). Your pledge helps us plan as accurately as possible for next year's budget and ministries. If you have questions about stewardship and pledging, you can reach out to a Vestry member. The office can help you connect. Thank you!

Last Chance to Give a Year-End Gift

Your Budget & Finance committee were able to share an initial draft budget with the Vestry at our December meeting. Currently, we are projecting a significant deficit in the 2023 budget. All of us will be working hard to find ways to improve that outlook without making drastic changes to programming or staffing; the final budget will be voted on in late January and shared in detail at our Annual Meeting on February 5. *If you are able to increase your pledge by any amount or make a one-time, year-end gift that will go to our 2023 operating budget, it will make a big difference to our mission and ministries.* Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity.

Yolo County Masking Recommendations and Signage

Yolo County recommends that everyone two years of age and older wear a mask indoors this Winter as several respiratory viruses are spreading, including influenza, RSV, and COVID. The

County also has new signage to reflect that masking recommendations are now based on combined respiratory virus levels rather than a single virus. Masking remains recommended only at St. Martin's. We have masks available for anyone who wants one (medical and KN95 masks). For more information: <https://www.yolocounty.org/Home/Components/News/News/13197/4918>

Help Needed

We Need Your Help with Coffee Hour Hospitality!!

Do you enjoy coffee, snacks and fellowship during coffee hour after the 10am service? Could you help host coffee hour? You can sign up on SignUp Genius for the date(s) you wish to host: <https://stmartinsdavis.tiny.us/SundayVolunteers>. Tables will be put up for you in advance. We have 3 different sign-up slots for volunteers a) Make coffee and put items out on the coffee and snack tables starting at 9 or 9:15am; b) Bring snacks; c) Clean up after coffee hour (starting about 11:45am). Let's continue to have a great coffee hour, with everyone's help!

Note: We have a new sign-up link (above) for all Sunday ministry sign-ups. After going to the link, select the tab at the top for either Liturgical Ministers or Hospitality.

Readers, Ushers, EMs, Crucifers

We need an array of liturgical ministers every Sunday for worship at both the 8am and 10am services. We have a signup system for volunteers that allows you to pick the days and ministries in which you would like to volunteer. Here is the link: <https://stmartinsdavis.tiny.us/SundayVolunteers>

Staying Connected with Each Other

Encouraging All to Wear Name Tags

Now that we have returned to church in person in larger numbers and since many joined us during the pandemic lock-down, we hope all will wear name tags so that we can learn each other's names. If you need a name tag (new or replacement), just put your name on the list on the welcome table at church. Your new name tag will be available the following Sunday. In the meantime, we have stick-on name tags at the welcome table.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Choir Practice: Thursday, January 5 at 7:00pm (in the church)

Care for God's Creation: Monday, January 9 at 7:00pm

Worship Committee: Tuesday, January 10 at 5:00pm

Ministry Council: Thursday, January 12 at 10:00am, in person in the church library

Buildings & Grounds: Friday, January 20 at 4:00pm

Social Justice & Outreach: Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00pm

Vestry: Monday, January 23 at 7:00pm

Meetings are on Zoom unless otherwise noted; for a link, please contact communications@churchofstmartin.org. If you wish to schedule a meeting on the calendar, contact the church office info@churchofstmartin.org.

Rector's Office Hours - Wednesdays 4:00 - 5:00pm

Rev. Pamela holds office hours most weeks on Wednesday, 4:00 - 5:00 pm in the church library.

Her next office hours will be on Wednesday, January 4. If you would like to meet with Pamela at a different time, just email her or contact the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org).

Parish Prayer List Requests

Do you have a prayer request? Please know that people you have placed on the Parish Prayer List are being prayed for. Please see the information on our website about how to make a prayer request (i.e., to have someone put on our written prayer list). You will also find other useful information, such as how long we keep people on the prayer list. [HERE](#) is the link (scroll down to the section that says "Do you have a prayer request?").

Church Office Hours

We are open in person Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. You can also reach the office by calling us at 530-756-0444 or sending an email to info@churchofstmartin.org.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 2 in observance of New Year's Day.